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"PATENT"

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:
Ramesh Gupta et al

U. S. Serial No. 09/712,654

Filed: November 14, 2000

A METHOD FOR EXTENDING OPERATING
LIFE OF A FIXED BED REACTOR

) Before the Examiner
) Basia Anna Ridley
)
) Confirmation Number: 4644
)
) Group Art Unit: 1764
)
) Family Number: P1999J032-US2

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

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AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.116

In response to the Final Office Action of August 22, 2002, in the above-referenced patent application, Applicants provide the following and respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of the application. This amendment is filed in conjunction with a RCE attached herein.

AMENDMENT

In The Claims:

9. (twice amended) A method for extending the operating life of a fixed bed reactor for reacting a feedstock [in which the feedstock is contacted with] said fixed bed reactor

I hereby certify that I have a reasonable basis for believing that this correspondence will be deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on <u>OCTOBER 21, 2002</u>		
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<u>KATHLEEN A. KUNA</u>	<u>Kathleen A. Kuna</u>	<u>OCTOBER 21, 2002</u>
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